



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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CHAFEE ANNOUNCES LABOR DEPARTMENT DECISION: ASSISTANCE NOW AVAILABLE FOR FORMER EMPLOYEES OF LAMINATED SPECIALTIES, INC. OF WARREN.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor has determined that all workers of Laminated Specialties Inc. of Warren, are now eligible to apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance.

An investigation was initiated on September 13, 2005 in response to a petition filed on behalf of workers of Laminating Specialties. The Department of Labor surveyed the firm's major customers regarding their purchases in 2003, 2004, and January through August of 2005 and found increases in customer imports of these products. The investigation revealed that sales, production, and employment declined at the cessation of the company's operation in August 2005.

In conclusion, Linda G. Poole, certifying officer in the Labor Department's Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance, determined "that increases of imports of articles like or directly competitive with laminated doors and panels produced at Laminated Specialties, Inc., Warren, Rhode Island contributed importantly to the total or partial separation of workers and to the decline in sales or production at that firm or subdivision."

As a result, all workers of Laminated Specialties "who became totally or partially separated from employment after August 26, 2004 through two years from the date of certification are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974."

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